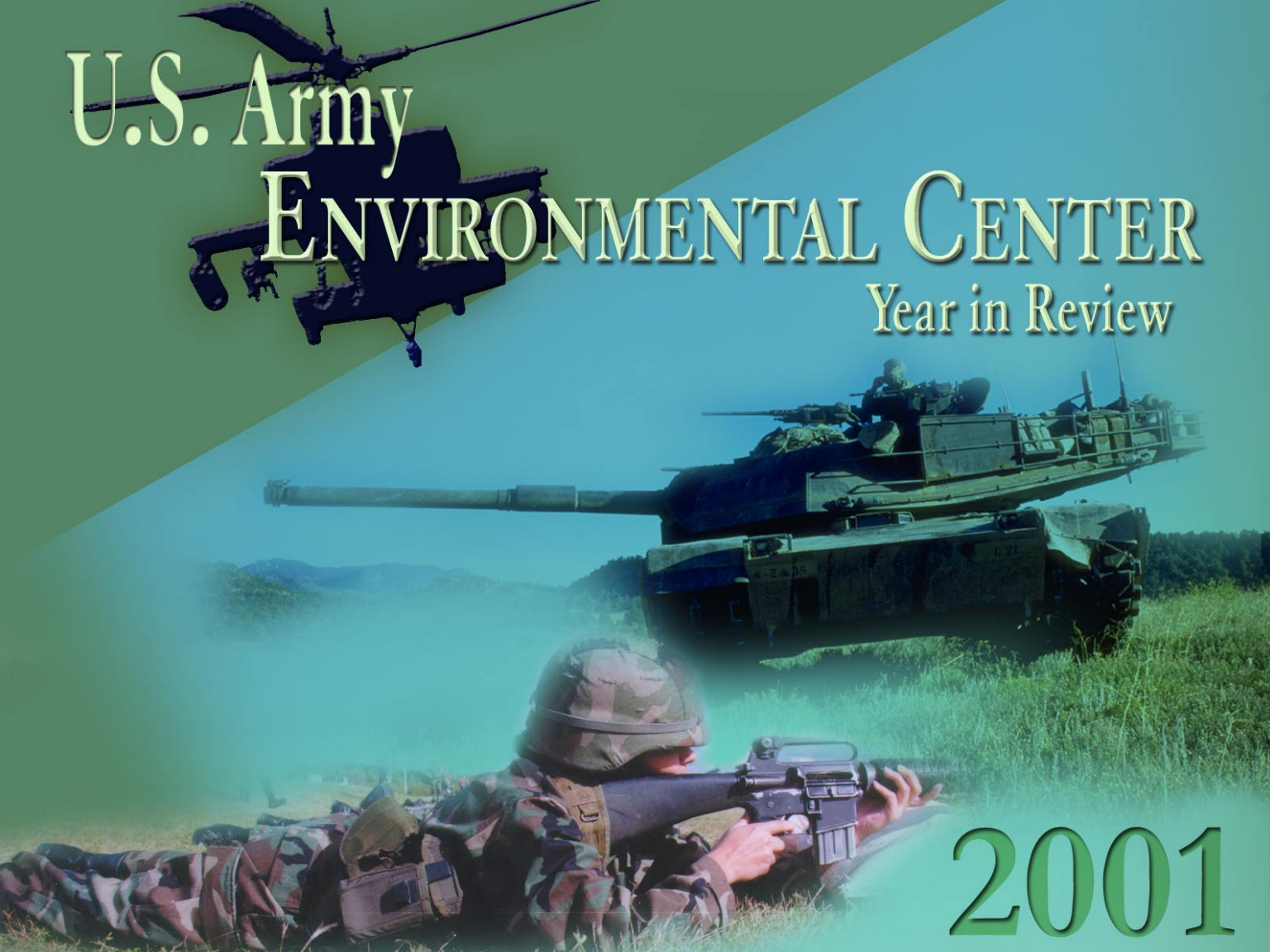
U.S. Army Environmental Center

Year in Review



2001

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Commander's Message

This past year marked a time of continuing renewal for the U.S. Army Environmental Center. As new environmental requirements surfaced and national defense needs shifted, we reorganized and rebuilt ourselves from the inside out — structure, mission and vision — to meet them. Our new structure reflects our commitment to the Army's transformation effort and to our support of major commands and installations. Our mission promotes Army readiness and environmental stewardship. Our vision guides us through a time of change.

The Center's transformation, however, did not alter its essential spirit. Novelist Lynn Hall could have been describing USAEC when she wrote, "We did not change as we grew older; we just became more clearly ourselves." In becoming ourselves — a team of world-class environmental professionals — we achieved many successes, some of which are highlighted in this review. You will see that professionals at USAEC, the Army's point organization for environmental integration, rise to the Army's environmental challenges with undeniable dedication, exceptional expertise and a persistent vigor year after year.

No one will be able to look back on 2001 without thinking of the horrendous acts of terrorism our nation suffered on September 11. No one will be able to look back without remembering our determination to rebuild and defend our country and our spirit. We at USAEC are determined to keep those who lost their lives and their families in our thoughts and prayers. We are also determined to find the most innovative and effective ways of enhancing Army readiness while maintaining the Army's leadership role in environmental stewardship. America deserves no less.

I hope that you'll read our review carefully and let us know how we can best support you with your environmental challenges in the coming years.

COL Stanley H. Lillie
COMMANDER
U.S. Army Environmental Center

USAEC Reorganization: Focusing on the Future

The year 2001 brought major changes to our nation and to the Army's challenges related to military readiness and environmental stewardship:

- War on Terrorism
- Homeland Defense
- Army Transformation - Interim Force/Objective Force
- Compatible Land Use - Sustainable Installations
- Business Management
- Range Operations - Unexploded Ordnance
- Outreach

The greatest changes occurred in USAEC's "centerline" operations, where we have recreated our offices and divisions.

The Range and Munitions Division is responsible for supporting a broad range of munitions and range programs, including unexploded ordnance response.

Finding common ground among the Army and various military, regulatory and advocacy organizations is crucial. An important part of this effort is sustainable range management — the maintenance of training and testing land to maximize its capability, availability and accessibility over the long term.

These and other changes have shed light on our nation's needs for a global response coupled with homeland security. In this regard, our "Focus on the Future" transition planning in the U.S. Army Environmental Center has centered on addressing the Army's needs in ensuring the seamless integration of military readiness and environmental stewardship through the transformation process.

To demonstrate our commitment to supporting the Army's transformation effort and assisting major commands and installations, the U.S. Army Environmental Center recently rebuilt its vision, mission statement and structure.

ToC

Range and Munitions also has a munitions management program that addresses regulatory, operational and technology requirements for munitions lifecycles; and a munitions response program for response at closed ranges to make them available for other uses.

Natural and cultural resources programs are the responsibility of the Conservation Division. Conservation innovations were typified by USAEC's involvement in the Private Lands Initiative on and around Fort Bragg, N.C., in which the Army formed a partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and The Nature Conservancy to preserve habitat for the red-cockaded woodpecker. In doing so, the viability of military training at Fort Bragg was enhanced for future soldiers, as many encroachment issues were addressed.

Pollution Prevention, Compliance, Acquisition and Technology (PCAT) programs from across USAEC were brought together under a single division.

The Compliance and Pollution Prevention Branch was established to integrate the highly compatible programs of the two disciplines.

Teams working on areas such as waste, air quality and water quality will include both pollution prevention and compliance experts. The Acquisition Branch of PCAT picks up a long-standing USAEC mission to reduce the long-term environmental costs to installations from Army equipment and supplies.

The branch also supplies information, guidance and training to individual acquisition program managers. For instance, USAEC assisted the development of the RAH-66 Comanche attack and reconnaissance helicopter by estimating the environmental cost and recommending improvements.

The division's Technology Implementation Branch demonstrates and transfers cost-effective industrial process changes and technologies designed to prevent pollution. The branch finds and develops tools to help the Army sustain readiness, protect resources and improve soldiers' quality of life.

At the national level, legislative and regulatory tracking, monitoring and preparation of comments, position papers and testimony on developing and proposed federal legislation and regulations will be coordinated by USAEC's newly established Office of Legislative and Regulatory Activities. The creation of this office reflects the Army's increased focus and greater participation in the federal legislative and regulatory process when environmental law might affect the cost or effectiveness of Army training.

With increasing requirements to gather and report information on the Army's environmental progress, USAEC created the Information and Environmental Reporting Division.

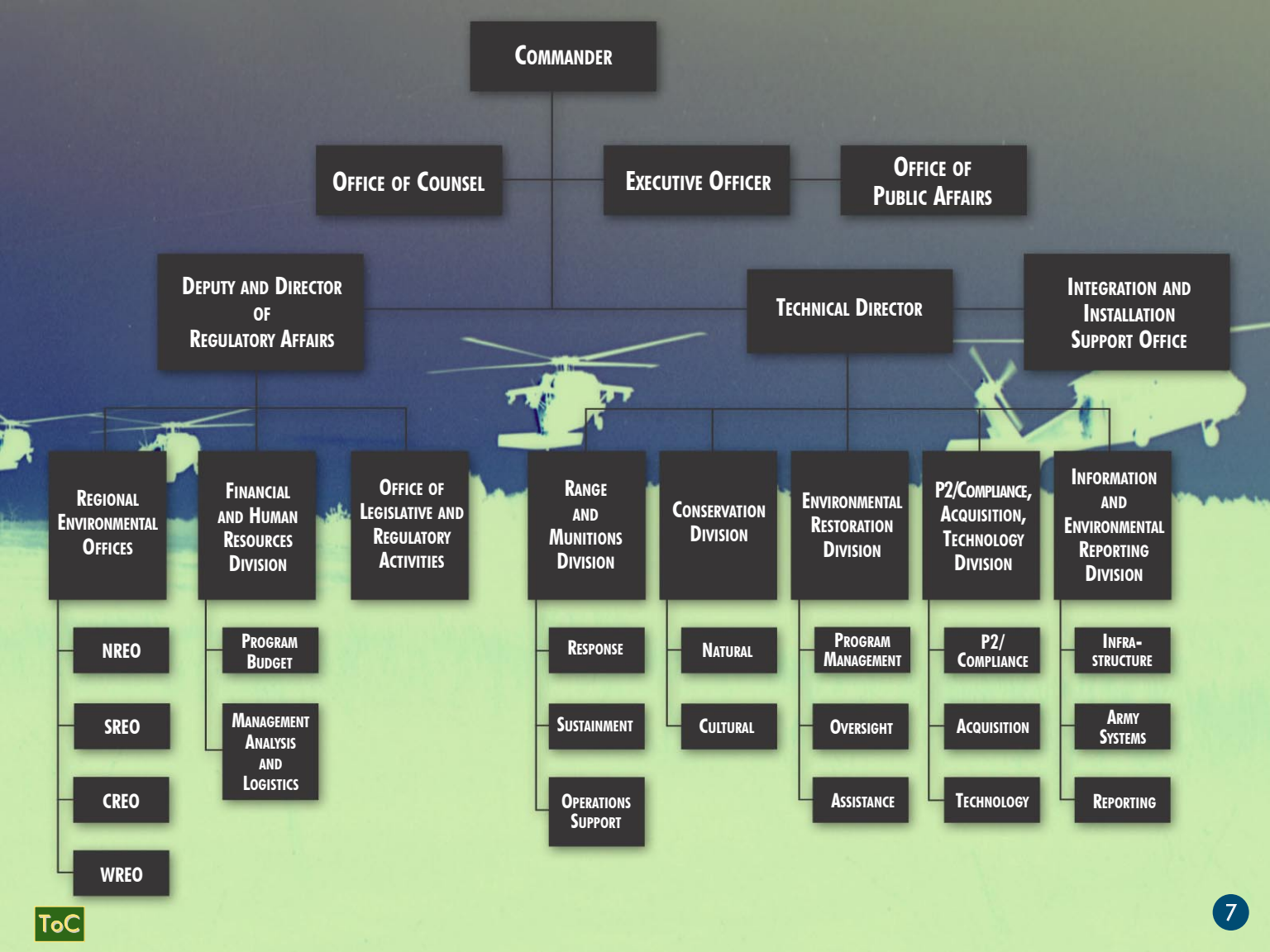
One of the division's main tasks will be finding ways to unify and streamline environmental data management. The debut of the Army Environmental Database, incorporating data from six key reporting systems, is just the first step.

With the database, installations will have better and earlier access to the information they need to make decisions. For installations requesting USAEC's help, our Integration and Installation Support Office offers a clear point of entry, in addition to managing awards programs and environmental training program review.

With environmental stewardship an integral part of the Army's overall transformation strategy, USAEC plays an important role in developing the Army of the future as well as helping to protect its operations today. Compliance and stewardship will protect Army readiness through the rest of the 21st century and preserve the well-being of soldiers, families and communities.

Unchanged is the Environmental Restoration Division. The restoration of sites affected by past military operations has been a core mission for the Center since the 1970s. Over the past 25 years, the environmental restoration program has accomplished roughly 83 percent of its goals. Of approximately 12,000 Army sites in the United States and its territories, responses have been completed on over 10,000, with the remaining sites on track for completion by 2014.

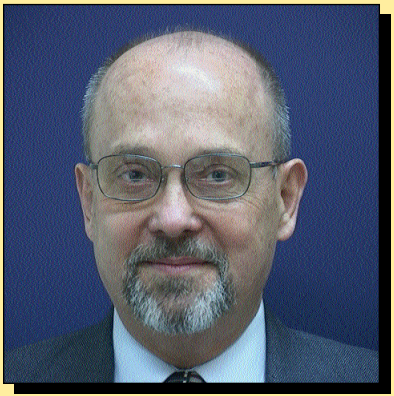
While essentially unchanged, the U.S. Army Regional Environmental Offices continue to focus their support on the Army and Department of Defense environmental missions through coordination, communication and facilitation. Each has added or is in the process of adding legal counsel to help respond to legislative and regulatory developments at the state level. We've also added liaisons to three major commands — TRADOC, FORSCOM and AMC.


Commander
Office of Counsel
Executive Officer
Office of Public Affairs
Deputy and Director of Regulatory Affairs
Technical Director
Integration and Installation Support Office
Regional Environmental Offices
NREO
SREO
CREO
WREO
Financial and Human Resources Division
Program Budget
Management Analysis and Logistics
Office of Legislative and Regulatory Activities
Range and Munitions Division
Response
Sustainment
Operations Support
Conservation Division
Natural
Cultural
Environmental Restoration Division
Program Management
Oversight
Assistance
P2/Compliance, Acquisition, Technology Division
P2/ Compliance
Acquisition
Technology
Information and Environmental Reporting Division
Infra-structure
Army Systems
Reporting

Resources and Funding

The U.S. Army Environmental Center consists of about 180 environmental professionals of various specialties. They are experts in such areas as environmental restoration, pollution prevention, compliance, natural and cultural resources, pest management, archaeology, unexploded ordnance, engineering, information management, financial management, legal and regulatory affairs, communication and administration. For the most part, they are Army employees. But they also include liaisons from the Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, among other agencies, who work side by side with Army employees. In addition, more than 150 contractor personnel support USAEC, bringing additional talent, expertise and resources not available through the public sector.

Focus on People: Robert York

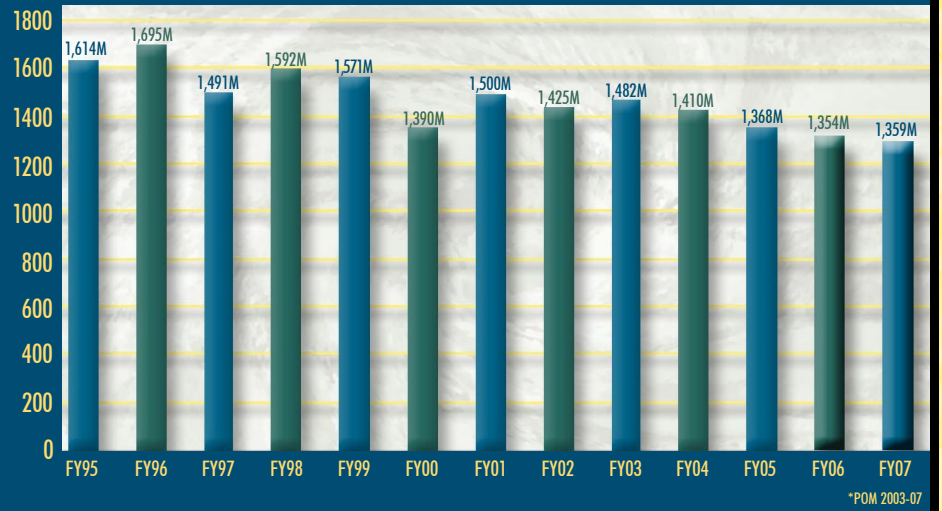


Supervisor of the Year, an honor bestowed by the Federal Women's Program, was given in 2001 to USAEC's own Robert York, chief of the Range and Munitions Division. Dr. York was nominated by his staff because he encourages women to further their education, nominates women for long-term training and developmental assignments and acts as a mentor to female employees. Dr. York also attends and encourages the workforce to support women's functions, such as the Federal Women's Program and the Aberdeen Proving Ground chapter of Women in Science and Engineering. Says Dr. York, "One of the things I enjoy as a manager and mentor is the chance to try to draw out the best in everyone, even when they can't see what that is."

Together we plan, budget for and execute work worth hundreds of millions of dollars. As part of our support to the environmental financial management mission, we:

- Manage the Environmental Restoration, Army (active site) account, a $389.1 million program in FY01. We develop the Army's installation restoration budget, distribute the money to major Army commands, and track and report on its execution.
- Develop long-term and annual budget submissions for USAEC Environmental Quality programs, which support Armywide pollution prevention, conservation and compliance initiatives.
- Provide financial guidance and reporting for the Army's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) cleanup program, which included an FY01 BRAC support budget of $4.8 million. We provide similar services for the Army's environmental technology transfer program and the forestry and agriculture outleasing programs.

Past, Present and Projected Army Environmental Funding*



The Army Environmental Budget

	FY01 ($M)	FY02 ($M)
Technology	8	9
Prevention	49	39
Compliance	467	530
Conservation	101	124
ER,A	389	390
FUDS	231	190
BRAC	255	143
Total	$1,500	$1,425

Other Programs

$2.2M
Environmental Quality

$3.0M
ORISE Program

$4.1M
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation

$.8M
Army's Forestry and Agricultural Outleasing

$.9M
Department of Defense Forestry Reserve

Environmental Quality
(Pollution Prevention, Conservation, Compliance, Integrated Training Area Management)

Environmental Restoration
(includes Range Inventory)

BRAC Support

USAEC Programs

USAEC Funding

Of the Army's FY01 environmental budget, USAEC managed $90.9 million in direct and reimbursable funds.

Direct funding covers our programs for environmental quality, BRAC support and environmental restoration management (including $6.7 million for range inventory) — $79.9 million in FY01. We also programmed, budgeted for and reported on the execution for the total Environmental Restoration, Army program funds, which included $10.0 million for conducting the inventory of closed Army ranges.

USAEC also managed and executed funds for $11.0 million in reimbursable programs. These "other" Army and Defense Department programs — funded outside our direct operating budget — included environmental research, development, test and evaluation; DoD's Forestry Reserve; the Army's forestry and agricultural outleasing programs; Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education internships; and various other environmental quality initiatives.

Sustainable Ranges and Installations

The U.S. Army's mission is to fight and win our nation's wars. To be successful, the Army needs training ranges where it trains as it fights and testing ranges where it can develop its technical edge. USAEC professionals work to eliminate restrictions on operations to ensure that ranges continue to be viable — and valuable — for our future.

Supporting Species at Risk

More than 170 federally listed threatened and endangered species occupy training lands on 94 U.S. Army installations. USAEC supports the installations by providing technical support and expertise in the form of biological assessments and reviews of endangered species management plans to streamline the Section 7 process.

In FY01, USAEC conducted pilot studies on species at risk at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., and Camp Blanding, Fla. We also released our *FY 2000 Army Threatened and Endangered Species Summary Report*, which provides information on threatened and endangered species found on, or contiguous to, Army installations. As a public service, USAEC also provided alerts on new and proposed threatened and endangered species, and critical habitat designations or new U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service policy to the Federal Register.

Focus on People: Paul Dubois

Over 50,000 members across the country compete for the annual Federation Conservation Award, but this year the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (BASS) awarded it to USAEC's Paul Dubois.

Mr. Dubois received the award from the Maryland BASS Federation for his outstanding environmental conservation efforts during calendar year 2000. One of these was the drafting and signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland BASS Federation. The MOU was the first-ever for any state BASS Federation, and it led to two large Maryland state park projects that benefited the environment and bass fishing. More conservation projects are expected in the future.

Strategizing Range Land Use

USAEC manages and oversees the Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Geographical Information System (GIS) Regional Support Centers. These centers ensure that GIS capability exists at all ITAM installations, and support an integrated land-use planning strategy for management of training lands.

A major milestone for the Army GIS was accomplished on October 16, 2001, when BG William Webster, Director of Training, and MG Robert Van Antwerp, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, signed the Army Range Sustainment Integration Counsel (ARSIC) GIS Policy. USAEC chaired the ARSIC GIS work group that developed this policy, which serves as the foundation for additional guidelines and funding for Army GIS programs, and as a vehicle for eliminating GIS data incompatibilities, insufficiencies and duplication of effort.

Assessing Live-Fire Impacts

Four orders from the Environmental Protection Agency contending that training at the Massachusetts Military Reservation threatens groundwater have severely restricted operations since April 1997. While the Army would like to challenge the contention that training necessarily endangers the environment, there is currently insufficient information on the actual impacts of artillery and other live fire on the environment to do so.

USAEC helped develop a program in FY01 to assess ranges in an effort to close this information gap. In cooperation with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, we have undertaken a study of the groundwater and surface water at Fort Hood, Texas, to determine whether explosives threaten drinking water sources, and provided technical assistance to both Fort Polk, La., and Fort Lewis, Wash., in their efforts to conduct similar assessments.

Well Underway: Army Range Inventory

The Army Range Inventory is a comprehensive effort to collect data on the Army's active and inactive and closed, transferring, transferred (CTT) ranges to give the Army a clearer picture of the environmental characteristics of its ranges. Phase 1, the Advanced Range Survey, was completed in FY01. Phase 2, the Operational Range Survey, completed surveys at 250 sites in the United States and overseas. Phase 3, the inventory of CTT ranges in the United States and our territories, was started in FY01.

An Explosive Response

USAEC is a leader in the development of the Defense Department's munitions response program. The USAEC range response team assisted in the development of the draft DoD Directive for Munitions Response, which will address environmental and explosives safety issues at former military ranges. We also researched and analyzed current environmental laws and regulations that may affect operational range activities, and assisted on a variety of munitions and range issues.

Managing Hazardous Materials

Managing and tracking more than 30,000 hazardous waste containers is no easy task, but processes and software developed by USAEC helped Picatinny Arsenal — one of the nation's largest research and development installations — do just that.

The software, called the Hazardous Substance Management System (HSMS), is a cradle-to-grave management tool that helped the arsenal's Hazardous Materials Management Team inventory and categorize all of the hazardous materials used by the installation. Based on the information compiled by the system, the team built a state-of-the-art management and storage facility, known as HAZMART, to receive, distribute, store and track the material. Implementing HSMS allowed Picatinny Arsenal to significantly reduce its enormous amount of hazardous material by controlling purchasing capabilities, reducing waste volume, increasing inventory control and improving safety conditions.

Streamlining Compliance

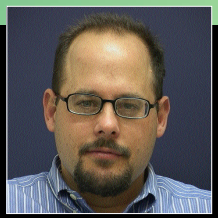
Procedures that streamline compliance with federal historic preservation regulations became available for implementation in FY01 due to the efforts of USAEC. These Army Alternate Procedures, approved by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, are an option for installations needing to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Extensive coordination was undertaken with state historic preservation offices, Native Americans and other interested stakeholders who agreed on the procedures USAEC proposed. Now installations can undertake actions outlined in the 5-year Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan without having to go through consultations on each project.

The Army could avoid $1.5 to $4.2 million annually in delay costs as installations choose Army Alternate Procedures over the method detailed in 36 CFR Part 800.

Focus on People: David Guldenzopf and Scott Farley

David Guldenzopf



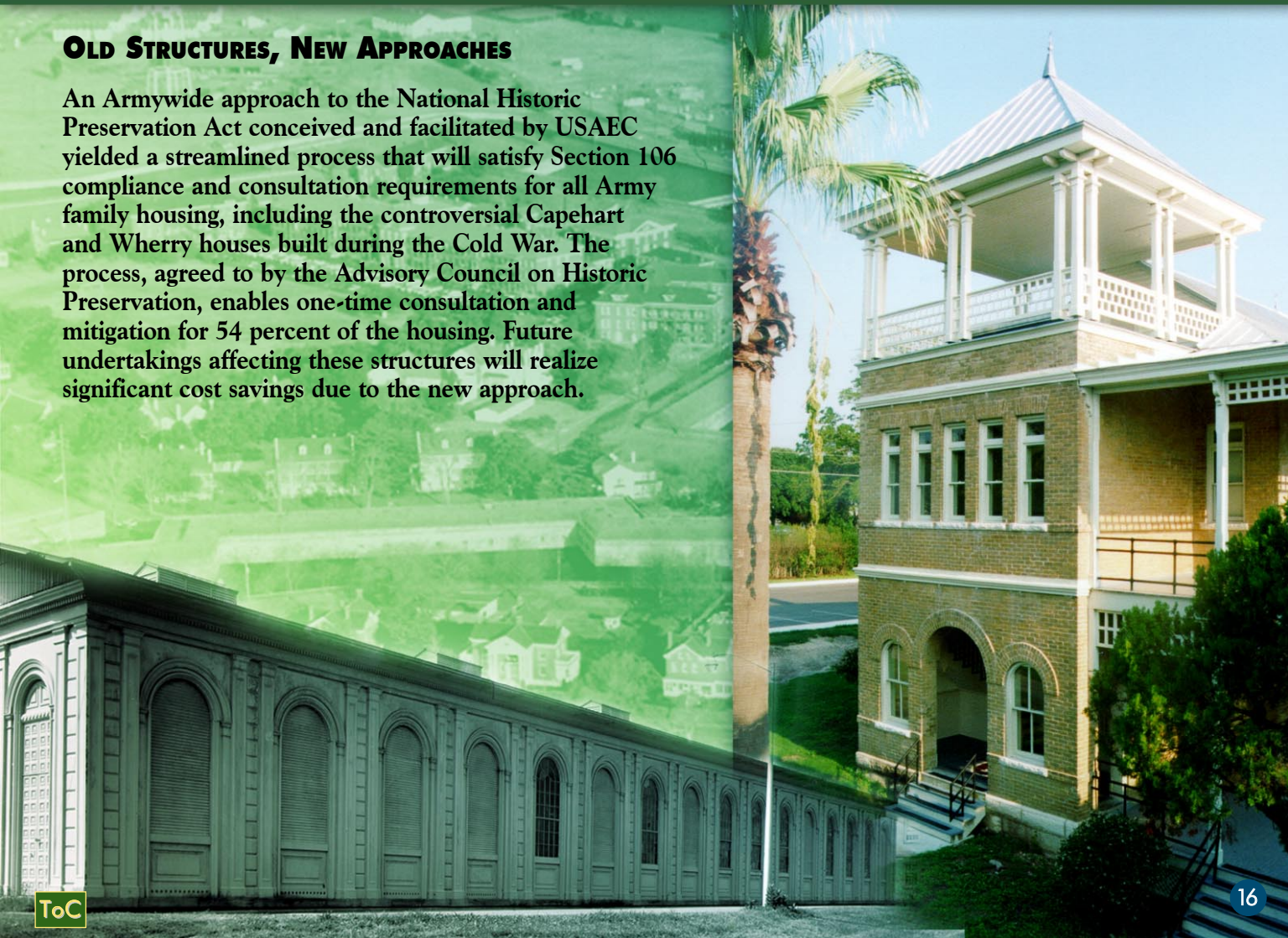
Scott Farley

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation bestowed the Chairman's Citation for Achievement in Historic Preservation on David Guldenzopf, chief of USAEC's Cultural Resources Branch, and Scott Farley, an environmental attorney in USAEC's Office of Counsel, for their role in bringing the Army Alternate Procedures to fruition. Dr. Guldenzopf and Mr. Farley developed the concept and saw it through to completion.

The award (the first of its type to be presented by the council) recognizes individuals who demonstrate leadership in historic preservation, promote historic preservation values and partnerships, and develop effective and creative solutions to particular problems in historic preservation.

Old Structures, New Approaches

An Armywide approach to the National Historic Preservation Act conceived and facilitated by USAEC yielded a streamlined process that will satisfy Section 106 compliance and consultation requirements for all Army family housing, including the controversial Capehart and Wherry houses built during the Cold War. The process, agreed to by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, enables one-time consultation and mitigation for 54 percent of the housing. Future undertakings affecting these structures will realize significant cost savings due to the new approach.



Major Command and Installation Support

USAEC provides support to MACOMs and installations in the execution of the Army's environmental program through headquarters operations and the regional environmental offices. Its headquarters operations represent MACOM and installation interests in the development of federal regulations; supply technical guidance to address emerging environmental issues; provide information management systems and respond to MACOM and installation environmental program implementation needs.

Coordinating Transformation NEPA Efforts

USAEC supported installations, MACOMs, the acquisition community, and HQDA in assessing potential environmental impacts from implementing the Army's transformation. USAEC staff provided technical comments and contributions to the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) considering the Army's overarching program concept for transformation from initial through interim to objective force capability. Documentation for systems acquisitions was reviewed for technical sufficiency and for pollution prevention opportunities.

USAEC participated in USARPAC working groups planning analysis of potential environmental impacts from proposals to field Interim Brigade Combat Teams (IBCTs) at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and Forts Wainwright and Richardson, Alaska. USAEC contributions extended to coordinating development of preliminary NEPA documentation in consultation with USARPAC, FORSCOM, and NGB installations, and facilitating HQDA review of NEPA documentation in accordance with long-range fielding schedules for IBCT and other transformation-related projects and activities.

Wide-Ranging Capabilities

Established in December 1999, the ITAM Mission Support Contract (MSC) is a multiple-award, five-year, $50 million indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity task order contract, which offers flexible, robust capabilities to all Army installations within and outside the continental United States, MACOMs, Defense Department

components and other federal agencies. The MSC was created to assist Army installations in maintaining their Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) programs, but is not limited to these areas. The contract has saved the Army ITAM community over $1.3 million during the first 18 months of operation, a figure that is expected to increase in future years.

Best Management Practices

In FY01 USAEC continued its efforts to characterize residues and wastes generated as a result of munitions use on training and test ranges. A centralized repository of information has been established to provide MACOM and installation users with technically defensible data to support informed decisions about munitions residue management practices. Profile sheets are being developed for each range scrap item to include item nomenclature, identifying data, a hazardous waste determination, a discussion of waste management options, applicable best management practices, and analytical results. Waste Profile Notices for range scrap items are being posted on the DoD Defense Environmental Network and Information Exchange Web Site as they are developed.

Munitions Rule Training and Site Assistance Visits

Over a period dating from October through May 2001, USAEC led a team composed of Munitions Work Group members and staff from the Defense Logistics Agency that conducted a Munitions Rule Staff Assistance and Training Visit Program. This effort resulted in the participation of five MACOMs and the training of over 250 Headquarters, Department of the Army military and civilian employees. Ammunition managers, range operators, environmental and legal staff were represented.

Cultural Resources Management

USAEC supported installations and MACOMs in FY01 on issues related to the requirements set forth in AR 200-4, Cultural Resources Management. We assisted with a determination of eligibility for Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico; the demolition and reuse of the United States Disciplinary Barracks (USDB) at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; the eligibility of Cold War properties at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; and a number of projects at U.S. Military Academy, West Point. A USAEC team reviewed and approved variances for the preparation of Installation Cultural Resource Management

Plans at several Army Materiel Command (AMC) installations, and for a 1-year variance from Memorandum of Agreement/Programmatic Agreement review for Fort Sam Houston, Texas. USAEC also provided support for the review of nine Programmatic Agreements and six Memoranda of Agreement at 11 installations.

Oversight Management

USAEC restoration oversight managers participated in and facilitated over 30 Installation Action Plan workshops at AMC, Training & Doctrine Command and Forces Command installations. These workshops are designed to ensure the Installation Action Plan clearly identifies specific cleanup goals based on cost-effective, risk-based decision making. The workshops are an important forum for promoting an understanding of the Army restoration planning and programming process to various stakeholders in the cleanup program.

Increasing Trust at Makua

Live-fire and maneuver training at Makua Military Reservation was stopped for over two years due to concerns expressed by local environmental organizations. One of these, Malama Makua, has even filed suit against the Army.

The challenge of facilitating communication between the Army and the public in Hawaii has fallen to USAEC and U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. Through the Western Regional Environmental Office, these Army agencies provided risk communication training to key personnel in the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and US Army Hawaii in preparation for several public meetings in FY01. The training, designed for high risk/low trust situations such as that at Makua Military Reservation, could be the first step in resolving the issues and resuming Army training in Hawaii.

Full Compliance

Fines at Sievers-Sandberg Army Reserve Center in Pedricktown, N.J., and Camp Kilmer, N.J., could have exceeded $100,000 per day for alleged underground storage tank violations. Intercession by the USAEC Northern Regional Environmental Office, however, prevented the issuance of EPA notices of violation to those activities. Acting on advance notification and in concert with the 77th Regional Support Command and Camp Kilmer, USAEC determined that previous EPA communications to the activities had been misaddressed, that the tanks were fully compliant and that proper notification to regulatory authorities had been submitted as required. EPA closed both cases without prejudice.

Year of Progress and Change

DoD coordination of a multi-site agreement to complete cost-effective and timely remediation efforts at Pennsylvania's 1,000 military sites 10 years earlier than originally projected was transferred from a Navy representative to an Army representative located at USAEC's Northern Regional Environmental Office. The decision reflects the predominance of Army activities and formerly used defense sites within the universe of DoD facilities covered by the agreement. During the past year, a study conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection allowed most of the 659 sites identified by the services to be reclassified as resolved, adding to the 101 sites already resolved.

Working Toward Regional Conservation

The USAEC Southern Regional Environmental Office and EPA Region 4 are employing a model developed by the University of Florida, called the Southeastern Ecological Framework, for wetlands management and regulation, mitigation banking, critical habitat identification and preservation, and other environmentally sensitive activities. The framework represents some of the best large intact ecological areas in Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, and South and North Carolina. USAEC has promoted inclusion of military installations as part of the framework for integration of information and to garner cooperative efforts against encroachment.

Southwest Strategy

Over a dozen federal agencies, including DoD, Department of the Interior, Department of Agriculture and USAEC, as well as EPA Regions 6 and 9, the states of New Mexico and Arizona, and a number of tribes, are full participants in a regional effort developed to resolve issues and streamline interagency processes. The effort, called the Southwest Strategy, is made up of working groups that focus on key environmental issues, such as endangered species protection, water conservation, scientific information, tribal/federal relations and border issues, and Geographic Information Systems. USAEC's Central Regional Environmental Office is directly involved in this initiative that yielded valuable products for DoD installations in FY01. Examples of these are the Section 7 ESA "streamlining" agreement, involvement in potential endangered species release proposals, and a directory of regional research efforts compiled and made available via the Internet.

Federal Facilities Risk Impact Analysis

A model being developed by EPA Region 6 through the USAEC Central Regional Environmental Office could be used in conjunction with environmental management systems and National Environmental Policy Act analyses by DoD facilities to predict environmental impacts.

The Federal Facilities Risk Impact Analysis model uses GIS and electronic data to consider multimedia environmental vulnerabilities and potential effects by watershed units in determining a cumulative risk for activities at defense facilities. The model is being proofed by Fort Bliss, Texas, and Fort Polk, La. EPA Region 6 requested an "upscaling" of the proofing initiative to include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and its Ordnance and Explosives Design Center of Expertise, Huntsville. An Army policy decision for continued participation with this agency is required.

Base Realignment and Closure and Active Sites Restoration

USAEC plans, coordinates, oversees and provides technical assistance to the environmental restoration efforts in support of the Army Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Program. We also plan, coordinate, direct, oversee and provide technical assistance to the Army Installation Restoration Program (IRP) for identification, containment, and elimination of hazardous waste contamination on continental U.S. Army properties.

Optimizing Treatment Systems

Our Groundwater Extraction and Treatment Effectiveness Review (GWETER) program is helping the Army optimize its groundwater treatment systems. GWETER experts evaluate a site's conditions and determine the more cost-effective alternative to the existing pump-and-treat system. By optimizing its existing systems and setting proper cleanup objectives, the Army could avoid costs of $100 million over the next 10 years.

Pueblo Chemical Depot and Tooele Army Depot are two of several installations that have saved the Army millions of dollars and simultaneously helped to protect the environment while using GWETER. Pueblo has displayed a cost savings of $4 million with an additional annual cost savings of $750,000. Through combined technical assistance and GWETER effort at Tooele, the original cost estimates for cleanup were reduced from $83.3 million to $38.6 million, a cost savings of $44.7 million.

Technical Assistance Evolution and Revolution

In FY01, our technical assistance focused on specific issues at high priority installations; we improved effectiveness by making the restoration oversight manager an integral part of the assistance effort, in both the active sites and BRAC programs. Linking oversight and technical assistance is providing the restoration oversight manager with more tools to oversee and assist MACOMs and installations.

We supported the Army Materiel Command in negotiating reasonable terms for a corrective action order at Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant, Tenn., and in developing a groundwater strategy that will consider the technical impracticability of restoring groundwater in a karst environment. In cooperation with the GWETER effort, we were also successful in developing a clear path forward for Tooele Army Depot, Utah, that resulted in cost-to-complete reductions of over $40 million and development of clear objectives. In a welcome endorsement of technical assistance, the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7 requested that USAEC become more involved in review and support of the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant, Mo., cleanup program to assure quality. The USAEC support agreement signed in September 2001 resulted in EPA's withdrawal of stipulated penalties against the installation.

The principles applied in the independent technical review and technical assistance efforts have been incorporated into a Principles of Environmental Restoration (PER) workshop and documented in a handbook to facilitate the broadest possible application by the field. Both the workshop and handbook are available to all Army installations that need assistance in more effectively planning and executing their programs. In FY01, the PER workshop was used as the facilitation tool to assist in the development of statements of work and independent government cost estimates for guaranteed/fixed-price remediation (G/FPR) contracts at Lompoc Disciplinary Barracks, Calif., and Fort Sheridan, Ill.

Focused technical assistance was also provided to support G/FPR contract awards at Hingham Annex and Fort Devens' (Mass.) Area of Concern 50.

Our technical assistance has also gone high tech in its efforts to bring more effective investigative techniques to the installations. USAEC has established a network of top geophysics experts from our Center, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Department of Energy laboratories and private industry to apply cutting-edge geophysics to restoration problems. USAEC-led geophysical efforts at Camp Crowder, Mo., and Camp Roberts, Calif., have provided a firm foundation for understanding the geology and hydrogeology underlying their restoration sites. Advances in aerial geophysics sponsored by USAEC through Oak Ridge National Laboratories are providing higher sensitivity data at substantially higher acquisition rates and substantially lower costs than standard ground surveys. The coverage provided by the aerial survey (200 miles of data over the six-square-mile site) at a cost of $90,000 would have been cost prohibitive (approximately $15 million) using ground-based survey techniques. Such successes in using geophysics for groundwater characterization have led to a request by Jacksonville District for consultation on their Everglades restoration program.

The USAEC-developed Basic Downhole Geophysical Workshop is in high demand throughout the Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies and has even been requested by the Canadian Ministry of the Environment. The course's credentials were further boosted by the offer of continuing education credits for the course by the prestigious Colorado School of Mines.

Guidance Development

In accordance with Army Regulation 200-1, USAEC is responsible for providing guidance on the environmental restoration program. At the end of FY01, DoD revised its Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) Management Guidance. The Center will issue revised Army guidance in FY02 to address the DoD DERP Management Guidance.

In August 2001, USAEC issued the draft Interim Land Use Control Management Plan. Land use controls continue to pose complex problems during the conduct of environmental restoration of active and BRAC parcels of land. The draft management plan outlines the responsibilities for various Army entities for management of land use controls when they are selected as part of a remedial action. The plan will be finalized in FY02.

Updating Guidance

In support of the Army's ammunition demilitarization program, USAEC developed a RCRA Subpart X guidance document for closure and post-closure of open burning/open detonation units. This document, issued in FY01, provides technical direction to assist Army installations in preparing closure/post-closure plans. USAEC updated the original guidance to reflect the EPA's policy changes, which significantly affect closure decisions and implementation costs for site-specific closure strategies.

Fiscal Reporting

USAEC supports the Office of Director of Environmental Programs in developing an unexploded ordnance (UXO) liability statement in response to congressional direction. The UXO liability estimate will also be used to develop a cost-to-complete estimate for the closed range response program.

Developing Direction

USAEC assists the Office of Director of Environmental Programs in developing the DoD Directive for Munitions Response at Other Than Operational Ranges. The directive provides policy for conducting munitions response actions. USAEC facilitated the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Service work group meetings to develop the directive.

Pollution Prevention/Compliance Integration

Addressing mission needs in the areas of pollution prevention and compliance, USAEC works to reduce Army waste streams so soldiers, their families and surrounding communities enjoy a better quality of life. Keeping Army installations in compliance with current and future environmental law also helps to ensure that training and safety of our soldiers are not compromised.

Defining New Rules

USAEC knows that meeting new regulations head on can facilitate compliance and cut costs. A case in point: The 30 to 40 EPA-proposed Clean Air Act rules, known as National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs), regulate one kind of industrial activity (e.g., chromium electroplating or painting of aerospace products). Of these, seven are expected to affect Army operations between 2002 and 2005.

The more significant of these NESHAPs for the Army — concerning Miscellaneous Metal Parts and Products and Plastic Parts and Products, Hazardous Waste Combustors, and Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incinerators — will affect 15 to 26 installations.

In a painting operation demonstration this fiscal year, USAEC convinced the EPA to restructure the requirements of the Miscellaneous Metal Parts and Products and the Plastic Parts and Products rules to accommodate Army and DoD special needs. This restructuring will help reduce the Army's cost to comply with the rules by up to $300 million.

In addition, through video teleconferences, e-mail discussion groups, guidance and individual discussions, USAEC professionals helped Army demilitarization furnace operators understand the significant changing requirements of the Hazardous Waste Combustor rule. Our work led to the development of a training program that will help demilitarization furnace operators understand the implications of the rule and the new timeline for compliance.

The Miscellaneous Metal Parts and Products and the Plastic Parts and Products standards are expected to limit air emissions from painting Army equipment such as tactical ground vehicles, tactical equipment, tanks and munitions.

The Hazardous Waste Combustor and Commercial and Industrial Waste Incinerator NESHAP will affect demilitarization furnaces and furnaces treating explosives-contaminated waste. Although regulations concerning Plastic Reinforced Composite Manufacturing will be applied to only two installations, this NESHAP will have a significant impact on future operations, as more advanced weapons systems will contain plastic parts. A Site Remediation NESHAP will limit air emissions from regulated cleanup sites. USAEC professionals worked with pollution prevention experts, Army installations and weapon system program managers to design or rewrite guidance documents, develop and exploit treatment technologies, and identify high-priority contaminant compounds that must be replaced.

Investing in Regional P2 Partnerships

USAEC plays a major role in facilitating partnerships among the military services, federal agencies, local governments and educational institutions throughout the EPA regions, using its regional offices as headquarters extensions. These partnerships promote dialogue and action to resolve environmental issues in a cooperative and efficient way. In FY01, partnerships organized through the regional offices made headway on the following pollution prevention issues:

- Region 4 DoD-EPA-States Partnership: the door to establish relationships with the academic/commercial/industrial community is swinging wider to address common environmental challenges. The University of South Carolina applied for and received a congressional insert of $2.0 million in support of the partnership, and 14 project proposals are now in the final stages of evaluation and approval. Even though the funding has not yet been released, the initiative is resolving the challenge of connecting researchers and end users to implement pollution prevention technologies.

- Region 5 Pollution Prevention Partnerships: at the initiative of the Northern Regional Environmental Office, DoD/state pollution prevention partnerships have been formed in five of the six EPA Region 5 states: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. The partnerships have developed charters, established computer mailing lists, Web sites, award programs and opportunity assessment programs. Participants include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, state environmental agencies, and installation and regional representatives from the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

- **Virginia Pollution Prevention Partnership: formed in October 2000 by the Army, Navy, Air Force, EPA Region 3 and the Commonwealth of Virginia, the partnership seeks to identify opportunities, develop solutions and promote successes in pollution prevention. Work groups have been formed to address affirmative procurement policies and practices, the decrease or elimination of solvents, universal waste and aqueous film forming foam, and the management of hazardous materials. Other cooperative efforts involve educating design engineers on sustainable building techniques, technologies and processes, and an initiative to reduce the discharge of priority chemicals to Virginia's environment.**

Acquisition Support

The greater part of installation environmental costs stems from operation and maintenance of weapon systems. We work to reduce the environmental impact on installations from fielded systems, integrate pollution prevention into the acquisition process and prevent environmental requirements from adversely impacting the schedule, performance or budget of an acquisition program.

Continuing Assistance

USAEC experts provide support to the Army Chief of Staff for Installation Management and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) by reviewing and adding input to operational requirements and National Environmental Policy Act documents, cost analysis requirements, test and evaluation master plans, and pollution prevention plans.

Environmental requirements can make up a significant part of a weapon's total costs, so USAEC works with the Army's weapons management and base operations communities to reduce these expenses during procurement. Other areas on which we have focused our efforts in FY01 include:

- Estimates of the environmental costs incurred during the development, use and eventual disposal of the Comanche and Apache helicopters
- Development of the *Environmental Quality Life Cycle Cost Estimating Handbook*, which all program managers can use to estimate costs for their own weapon systems
- Production of the *Programmatic Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Evaluations Development Guide for the Army.*

Technology Transfer

The innovative tools of tomorrow are being used by the Army of today, thanks to USAEC's technology implementation demonstration and transfer programs. Our efforts result in environmentally sustainable installations and systems that support readiness, modernization and well-being.

Continual Access to Timely Information

USAEC provides support to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Environment) to run the Army's Environmental Quality Technology (EQT) program. The EQT management oversight process is the result of a mandate by the Secretary of the Army to set priorities for needs, focus resources, and ensure cost-efficient investment for technology maturation, transfer and exploitation. Our experts serve as cochairs on the Pillar Technology Teams, which support top senior Army leaders.

The EQT program employs a new management tool — the U.S. Army Environmental Requirements and Technology Assessments (AERTA) database — which identifies the best projects to fund based on urgency, cost and risk. EQT uses the database to track and analyze user requirements while prioritizing program needs. AERTA is updated regularly with support from technology users to ensure that it reflects the Army's current needs. Requirements are refined regularly so that major commands have continual access to timely and relevant information.

Systematic Approaches

We are working with Aberdeen Test Center, Md., and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, Ala., to develop turnkey standardized sites to test and demonstrate current and emerging UXO sensor technologies. Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., will be the first of three sites targeted for this project. The knowledge gained there will be transferred to Massachusetts Military Reservation and Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., for further testing. Each of the chosen sites will be divided into three areas: a calibration lane for testing equipment and documenting signal strength and site-specific variables; a blind grid that will enable the demonstrator to showcase the sensors without coordinate system, platform or operational concerns; and an "open field" that will allow the demonstrator to document the performance of the system in a simulated environment. USAEC's goal is to develop a systematic approach to determine false alarm rates, detection capability, reacquisition, discrimination and system efficiency. This will result in a series of standardized site protocols and the marketing and technology transfer of viable, effective and cost-efficient sensor technology.

Protecting Precious Water Supplies

Oil Water/Separator (OWS) technology is integral to the prevention of petroleum, oils and lubricants waste streams from being discharged into precious surface and groundwater supplies. Although OWS technologies are widely used within the Defense Department, these systems often fail due to improper usage or dumping, inadequate maintenance, lack of training or insufficient information on OWS. Inadequate design of OWS also factors into the malfunction of many of these technologies.

To compensate, USAEC participates in the DoD Clean Water Act Services Steering Committee, which developed a comprehensive guidance package, encouraged pollution prevention among OWS users, and provided additional training to operations and maintenance personnel.

Environmental Reporting

The success of environmental cleanup projects depends on comprehensive and accurate information. Whether setting priorities, assessing risks or predicting movement of underground pollutants, installation managers and staff need fast and affordable access to pertinent data. USAEC assists Headquarters, Department of the Army, major Army commands and installations in the collection, organization, review and reporting of environmental data that are used to identify and evaluate environmental issues.

Managing Information: AEDB

The Army spends more than $1.5 billion per year on environmental programs. Judging the effectiveness of that investment requires reports, statistics and analysis. A dozen different information gathering and reporting systems have been collecting information piecemeal and maintaining them in separate databases. With the debut of USAEC's Army Environmental Database (AEDB) last year, data from five key reporting systems are now being integrated.

DSERTS: Combining Information Systems

To further integrate Army environmental reporting programs so they supply timely information to decision-makers and reduce costs, USAEC is developing a new Defense Site Environmental Restoration Tracking System (DSERTS). DSERTS combines its functions with the Restoration Cost to Complete System, providing installation managers with consistent, real-time data.

Using the World Wide Web: ERIS, RPTS, EPR

USAEC is fielding the Environmental Restoration Information System (ERIS), a repository for technical and chemical data from environmental restoration investigations. An interactive, easy-to-use database on the World Wide Web, ERIS will provide a standard data format and give the Army a single source for field restoration data.

The Center also released another Web-based database — the Reimbursable Programs Tracking System (RPTS) — to support the forestry and agricultural grazing program. The RPTS facilitates simultaneous data collection and review by installations and management.

In addition, our new Web version of the Environmental Program Requirements (EPR) system will be released in time for the spring 2002 datacall. This real-time system will help installations review and resubmit their current environmental requirements, while assisting USAEC and Headquarters, Department of the Army analysts in consolidating the data and building an effective environmental budget.

Collecting Toxic Release Inventory Reports

Army installations maintaining active firing ranges were subject to Environmental Protection Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Section 313, Toxic Release Inventory (TRI), reporting beginning FY01. Reporting the release of TRI chemicals from CY01 range activities to the corresponding states and the EPA is required by July 2002. USAEC has been instrumental in developing new tools that installation POCs can use to input munitions usage history to a database and access munitions constituent data from the Army's Munitions Items Disposition Action System (MIDAS), which determines the associated TRI releases. Without these tools, installation POCs could not have met their reporting requirements.

USAEC has been collecting EPCRA TRI reports from Army activities since the Army began reporting in 1994. In 2000, USAEC first collected required TRI reporting from CY99 demilitarization activities. In 2002, USAEC will collect required TRI reporting from CY01 range training activities for the first time.

Regional Environmental Office/Regulatory Review, Monitoring and Analysis

The Army, like other federal agencies and the private sector, must comply with environmental laws and regulations. USAEC supports the Army mission on the regional, state and local levels by ensuring new environmental requirements are reasonable and won't inadvertently impact military missions. USAEC's four field-based regional environmental offices monitor state regulatory and legislative activities and climate, forge partnerships with regional, state and local officials to enhance installation compliance and sustainability, and assist installations in resolving regulatory issues.

Wide Involvement, Wide Coordination

USAEC's Environmental Legislative and Regulatory Analysis and Monitoring Program (EL/RAMP) educates legislators and regulators on impacts of legislation and regulatory proposals to the Army prior to the adoption of new environmental requirements. The benefits of EL/RAMP allow the Army to meet new environmental requirements proactively.

As part of USAEC's participation, the Center reviews and analyzes environmental aspects of Defense Department Authorization and Appropriation Acts, providing summaries and highlights to Headquarters, Department of the Army. This is accomplished with support from a variety of experts from many disciplines — environmental engineers, environmental scientists, natural resources specialists, acquisition specialists, program managers and lawyers. The process consists of reviewing in detail proposed legislative and regulatory changes to determine potential operational and other impacts, and responding by submitting comments, testimony, position papers and other responses to the proposals.

FY01 Successes

- Draft version of the final "Hazardous Waste Identification Rule: Identification and Listing of Hazardous Wastes." After we commented on the proposed Hazardous Waste Identification Rule and met with the Environmental Protection Agency, the EPA reduced the requirements of the final rule. For example, used or expended nitroglycerin patches (used by heart

patients at Army hospitals) are not considered a contaminated waste; therefore, disposal of the patches does not follow the longer and more expensive process required by waste defined as contaminated.

- Critical Habitat for the Southern (or Mexican) Spotted Owl. Because of the direct involvement of the Army conservation community, Fort Carson, Colo., will not be included as Critical Habitat and therefore will not face further restrictions on existing training operations.

MMPP Rule

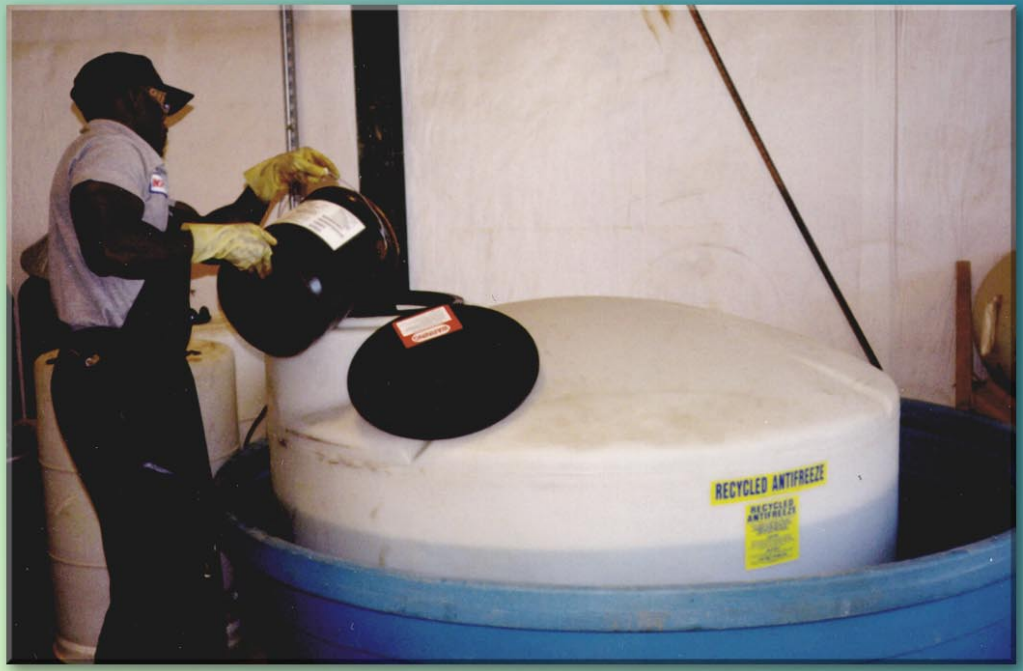
Thanks to work by the U.S. Army Environmental Center, along with the rest of DoD, two upcoming rules may cost the Army up to $300 million less. These upcoming rules will govern painting of tactical vehicles, equipment and ordnance at 26 Army installations. The savings will result from the Environmental Protection Agency including provisions in these rules that accomodate DoD-unique compliance problems. The EPA agreed to include the accomodations in these rules after the U.S. Army Environmental Center and DoD documented why the rules, as EPA then envisioned them, would cost us significantly more to comply with than they would cost non-DoD painting facilities.

State Regulatory Activities

Early identification of state and local legislative and regulatory activity with potential adverse impacts for the Army is as essential as involvement in corresponding federal legislative activities. A core function of USAEC's Regional Environmental Offices (REOs) is tracking, monitoring and responding to state and local legislative and regulatory activities (known as S-RAMP) that affect the Army and DoD. The REOs achieve their S-RAMP objectives by their involvement in the legislative and regulatory process and the preparation of comments, white papers, testimony and other documentation for submittal to regulatory officials. The REOs also coordinate comments on proposed legislation and regulations with MACOMs and installations as appropriate. During the past year, the REOs have successfully intervened on DoD/Army's behalf in various state legislative actions.

Resolving Issues Related to Hazardous Waste Fees Payments in Georgia

After years of working to resolve the issue of DoD payment of hazardous waste management fees in Georgia, at the request of the SREO counsel, a Study Committee of the Georgia Legislature recently passed a resolution that "DoD-EPD would be working on an amendment to the Hazardous Site Response Act (HSRA) of 1992 to clarify the specific provisions for paying fees related to hazardous waste management." SREO counsel is coordinating the specific proposals with other military services regional counsels and USAEC/HQDA for submittal to the Georgia General Assembly. The proposed amendments will be addressed along with other provisions related to reauthorization of the HSRA during the legislature's next session in 2002, and this issue will finally be resolved.



Support to Environmental Integration

The mission at USAEC places us as the point organization to integrate Army environmental programs. Managing the Secretary of the Army's environmental awards program, coordinating Army Earth Day and working with the other services are some of the ways the USAEC works toward its integration mission.

Secretary of the Army Environmental Awards

Environmental awards help spread word of the Army's leading-edge programs to the military and public audiences. USAEC coordinates the annual Secretary of the Army Environmental Awards and also organizes Army participation in the Secretary of Defense Environmental Security Awards program. Our comprehensive communication efforts publicize these achievements through articles, photos and video news stories to national and local media, allowing news of the Army's top stewards to reach those who can learn from their examples.

Army Earth Day

USAEC has managed the Army's Earth Day program since 1995, giving it cohesion though it is spread out around the world. In FY01, a new dimension was added to the program in the form of a survey conducted to establish a baseline of the success of the program. The survey revealed that the Army's Earth Day program has grown and is strong in its outreach to certain segments of the population, but could be leveraged to make greater impacts. The survey also revealed a desire on the part of Earth Day coordinators across the Army to be connected. In response, the USAEC Earth Day Web page was expanded in FY01 to include the results of the survey and links to installation Earth Day information on the Internet.

The United States Army sponsored Earth Day 2001 on April 27-28 at Zoo Atlanta. This was the fifth consecutive year that the Army sponsored this highly visible regional event with top leaders from many federal agencies in attendance. Over 16,000 students and teachers from throughout the state also joined in this celebration to learn more about the environment and the power of preservation.

Award Winning Involvement: FASTT

Professionals from the USAEC made up part of a team that garnered four major awards — including one from the Secretary of Defense — in FY01. The Field Activity Support Technology Transfer (FASTT) team, composed of Army, Navy, and Air Force members, was honored for its work in identifying and solving various environmental issues across the military services. Their combined efforts led to the reduction of over two million pounds of air and water pollution and over 650,000 pounds of hazardous waste, resulting in a cost avoidance of $58 million among DoD facilities.

Focus on People: Doenee Moscato

After initial partnering proved unsuccessful, Doenee Moscato was recruited by the Navy to lead the Army's part of the FASTT program. Ms. Moscato was chosen based upon her varied field of knowledge, expertise in pollution prevention and technology, field experience, understanding of the military and communications skills. She was honored for her individual contribution to the award-winning FASTT team by Rear Admiral Dale Baugh, USN, with an award reading, "As the United States Army FASTT Team Leader, Ms. Doenee Moscato has been critical to the success of the program. Ms. Moscato provided valuable support to each activity as the Army Team leader. Her tireless support for the program within the Army and her ability to improve communication between the services have helped ensure the continued success of FASTT. Her worldwide support for the FASTT team involved a great deal of personal time and sacrifice and covered the globe from Spain to California."

Partnerships for Success

Building partnerships within the Army and with other Defense Department and federal agencies is the bridge to USAEC's success in providing comprehensive and cost-efficient support to the Army's environmental program.

Private Lands Initiative for Endangered Species Management

The Army and its component installations have duties to manage and conserve federally listed threatened and endangered species. With the rapid development of private lands around Army installations, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is looking more and more to the Army to shoulder the heavy burden of avoiding species decline and aiding recovery. USAEC's legal expertise supports the Headquarters, Department of the Army Endangered Species Team by providing rapid review of draft biological assessments to ensure that installations are able to meet their compliance responsibilities with minimal impacts on training activities. We have also stepped out in front to assist several installations in developing innovative approaches to conserving adjacent private lands. For example, we drafted a first-of-its-kind cooperative agreement with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), through which TNC encumbers land through fee acquisition or conservation easements around Fort Bragg, N.C. Lands encumbered through this initiative are managed for red-cockaded woodpecker conservation and open to compatible military training.

Reaching Out to the Community: Boy Scout Jamboree

USAEC sent representatives to the Boy Scout Jamboree this year at Fort A.P. Hill, Va., to teach youth about the importance of conserving our nation's forests. The interactive program presented was developed by USAEC based on the Army's Forest Health Monitoring system, which scores woodland ecosystems based on health, canopy and ground cover. The monitoring system also aids in identifying which areas need rehabilitation due to human impact. The scouts were asked to score three selected sites and

determine the overall health of each, while learning useful restoration techniques that can be applied to local parks and camping areas.

Bringing Stakeholders Together

Through the regional offices, USAEC organizes, facilitates and supports various workshops designed to promote stakeholder partnerships and share information, technology and lessons learned.

- Region-wide Focus on Military Readiness and Environmental Stewardship: the 2001 Region 4 Environmental Conference was held June 26-28, 2001 in Atlanta, Ga. Approximately 380 attendees from DoD, EPA, the states and major Army commands participated in the conference to exchange ideas and information related to the theme "Sustainable Installations + Military Readiness = Investment in our Nation's Future." The Executive-Level Session on "Our Environment and the Military's Future in the Southeast" involved senior leaders from 21 separate federal, state and military organizations, and provided a forum for the exchange of ideas, identities and initiatives. Many actions and plans for cooperative efforts came from the meeting.
- DoD Region 5 Environmental Workshop, August 14-16, 2001: the first combined Region 5 EPA Federal Facilities Conference/DoD Environmental Seminar, held in Chicago in August 2001, attracted more than 150 representatives from military installations, other federal facilities, state and federal environmental regulatory agencies and service regional and headquarters offices. The conference marked a significant step in establishing a forum for military environmental personnel to meet regularly with state and federal regulators within Region 5 to talk about specific issues and improve dialogue. Overall, 95 percent of the participants agreed that the conference met their needs and expectations and they would attend future conferences as well as recommend the conference to other federal facility environmental managers.

Selecting Cleanup Technologies

The Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable (FRTR) Remediation Technologies Screening Matrix and Reference Guide is a multi-agency collaborative effort led by USAEC and supported by members of the FRTR. The Screening Matrix and Reference Guide has been aiding remedial project managers in their search for environmental technology solutions for the last seven years and has maintained a high level of success due to this partnering approach. Although there are several similar Web sites in existence, this one is unique in that it combines the technical expertise and input from several federal agencies to serve as a "one-stop shopping" arena providing remedial project managers with current, accurate, and readily accessible information profiling each technology for comparison.

Partnering with NRCS

USAEC and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are entering into an interagency agreement to provide technical services to Army installations. This agreement will permit the transfer of funds from USAEC to NRCS earmarked for land rehabilitation and maintenance projects for specific installations. The NRCS and an installation will develop a working plan and prioritize the installation's land maintenance projects according to mission needs. The NRCS will prepare the plans and specifications for the projects and contract earth-moving work with local vendors or with installation resources. The Economy Act requires such an agreement when DoD funds are transferred to other federal agencies. This agreement also will allow the transfer of funds from other Army programs to the NRCS for technical assistance to Army installations.

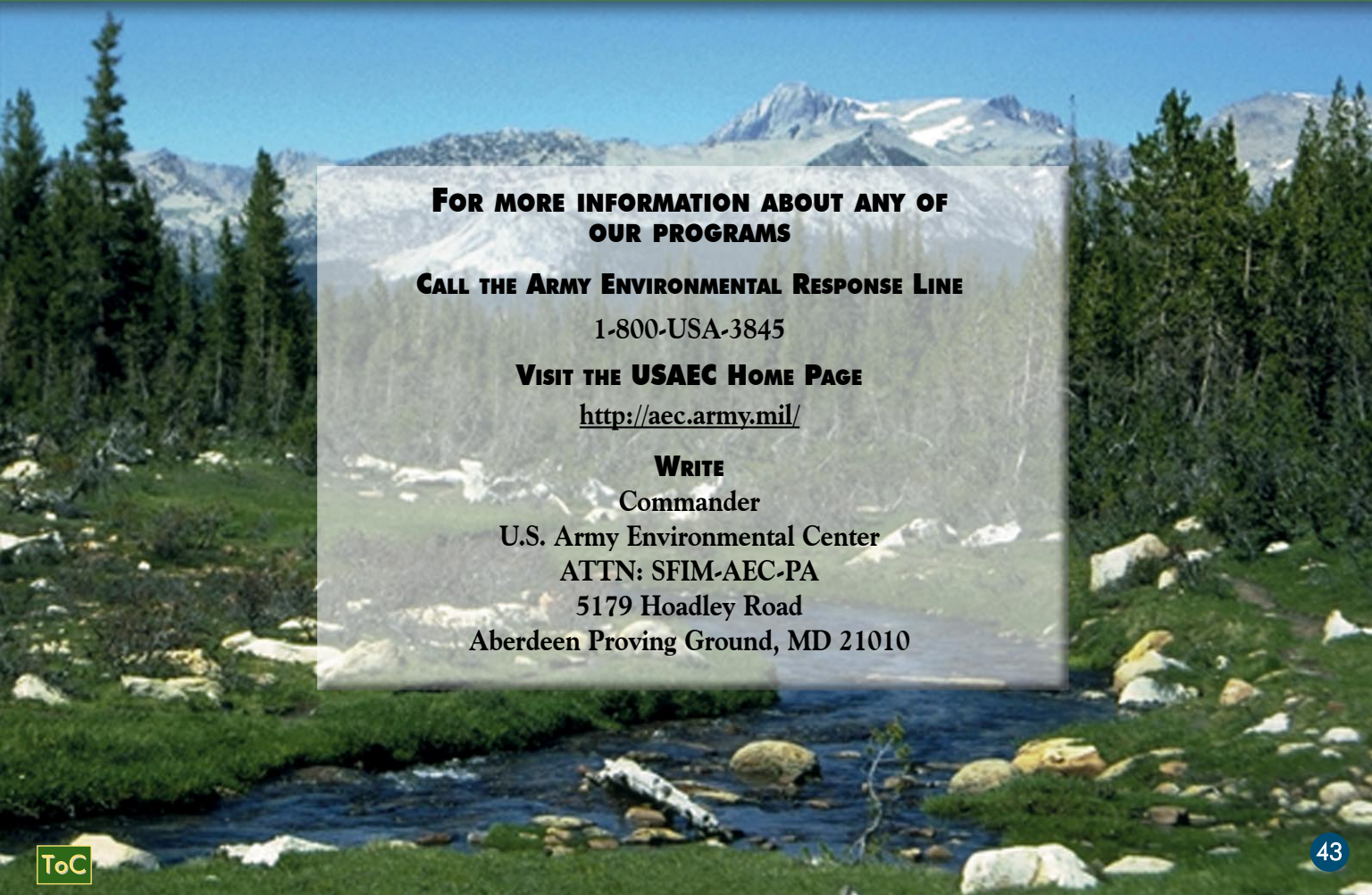
School Partnership

Each year the Center commander signs a memorandum of agreement with the Edgewood Elementary School in Edgewood, Md., as part of the national initiative to broaden the educational opportunities for American students. Center staff volunteer to help promote science and environmental studies in addition to reading and writing. We are averaging about 200 volunteer hours each school year.

Range and Munitions Use Subcommittee (RMUS)

The charter of the Operational and Environmental Executive Steering Committee for Munitions is to develop overarching DoD policies, positions and action plans related to the lifecycle management of munitions. The subcommittee's principal objective is to "develop a coordinated DoD plan to assess current range conditions and estimate the environmental impacts of munitions use on active and inactive ranges." To support DoD and Army policy development and installation range operations, three guidance documents will be developed, including service level range and munitions assessment guidance, installation range assessment guidance and munitions emission identification guidance.

Contacting USAEC



For more information about any of our programs

Call the Army Environmental Response Line

1-800-USA-3845

Visit the USAEC Home Page

http://aec.army.mil/

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